



Speech by

GORDON NUTTALL

MEMBER FOR SANDGATE

Hansard 4 March 1999

MULTICULTURAL QUEENSLAND POLICY

Mr NUTTALL (Sandgate—ALP) (10.25 a.m.): I am pleased to advise that this can do Government has just announced a million dollars in grants under the Multicultural Queensland Policy for various communities throughout this State. Applications for the next round of grants will be called for around the middle of this calendar year and those grants will be increased from \$1m to \$2m.

Recently, an announcement was made that the honourable member for Clayfield has been appointed as the State Opposition spokesperson on Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs. Coming so many, many months after the last State election, surely that is an afterthought. The honourable member is quoted in the Courier-Mail on 29 January as stating—

"We in the Coalition are determined to see that the real issues flowing from this are addressed at the highest and most effective levels."

If the honourable member means by that that the belated establishment of this Opposition shadow portfolio means much to Queensland's multicultural community, he is sadly listening to a different tune from the rest of us. It is clear, especially to the multicultural community of Queensland, that the State coalition has suddenly remembered—some eight months or so after the last State election—that multicultural and ethnic affairs is worthy of shadow portfolio status. What a disappointment and an insult to the multicultural community of this State! In the Courier-Mail of 2 February, the honourable member for Clayfield—

Mr BORBIDGE: Mr Speaker, the honourable member is misleading the House. I had responsibility for that area until it was transferred to my colleague the member for Clayfield.

Mr SPEAKER: Order! There is no point of order.

Mr NUTTALL: In the Courier-Mail on 2 February, the member for Clayfield was reported as telling sadly deluded Young Liberals that somehow the One Nation vote is a Labor conspiracy and that the "lesson of the last state election was that a vote for One Nation was a vote for Labor". Heaven forbid, it was the coalition that put One Nation ahead of Labor on its how-to-vote cards. The ALP did not and will not seek One Nation preferences at elections. The multicultural community switched off the day the coalition failed to put One Nation last on its how-to-vote cards.

Time expired.
